

North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

State Historic Preservation Office

Governor Roy Cooper Secretary Susi H. Hamilton Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Office of Archives and History Deputy Secretary Kevin Cherry

January 10, 2020

Stewart Gray Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission 2100 Randolph Rd. Charlotte, NC 28207-1522

RE: Proposed Designation of Ford Motor Company Assembly Plant, Charlotte, Mecklenburg County.

Dear Mr. Gray:

Thank you for submitting the report for Ford Motor Company Assembly Plant, Charlotte, Mecklenburg County. We have reviewed the information in the report and offer the following comments in accordance with North Carolina General Statute 160A-400.6.

According to the report, the Ford Motor Company Assembly Plant is a surviving example of the growth of industry in Charlotte in the early twentieth century, demonstrates the Ford Motor Company's expansion through the country, and is a surviving example of Albert Kahn's extensive work. The building is significant for its association with Albert Kahn and its association with industry in Charlotte. The proposed boundary encompasses 9.4 acres of land and includes the Assembly Plant building and the Boiler House.

We commend the commission for submitting a report that satisfies all the requirements outlined in the HPO's Guidelines and believe the data contained therein provides the local governing board with sufficient information to determine whether Ford Motor Company Assembly Plant possesses the requisite special local significance and integrity for local historic landmark designation.

Landmark designation means the community recognizes properties within the historic district are worthy of preservation because of their special significance to the local community. Any substantial changes in design, materials, and appearance to these properties is subject to the design review procedures of the preservation commission.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the report. Please note, our comments are advisory only and therefore, non-binding. Once the governing board has received a recommendation from the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission, it should proceed in the same manner as would otherwise be required for an amendment to the zoning ordinance. Once the decision has been made, please return a completed copy of the enclosed form to our office.

This letter serves as our comments on the proposed designation of Ford Motor Company Assembly Plant, Charlotte, Mecklenburg County. Please contact me at 919-814-6583 should you have any questions about our comments.

Sincerely,

Ramona M. Bartos, Deputy

State Historic Preservation Officer

CC: Commission Chair

Enclosure